

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Celebrating

**INDEPENDENCE**

In America's National Parks  
**2007**



Compiled by the National Park Service  
Office of Public Affairs and Communications

Visit the "Celebrate Independence in America's National Parks" web site at  
[http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/inde/celebrate.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/inde/celebrate.htm)



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Office of Communications  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-6843 phone  
202-219-0910 fax

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## National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 18, 2007  
David Barna 202 208-6843  
Gerry Gaumer 202 208-6843

### **Celebrate Independence in America's National Parks**

(Washington, D.C.) --- What better way to celebrate Independence Day this year than by visiting a National Park. The National Park Service (NPS) has the honor of preserving numerous areas that commemorate the birth of the United States and American Independence. The ideals and freedoms that were won during the American Revolution and guaranteed in the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence are celebrated throughout the National Park System.

“I invite everyone to come celebrate Independence this year at one of the many diverse sites in the National Park System”, said Mary A. Bomar, Director of the National Park Service. “Many of the events and people that established and helped maintain our Independence as a nation are today commemorated in areas managed by the NPS.”

The National Park Service has made available in time for the Fourth of July, a web site to help visitors plan their trip to an NPS site this Independence Day. By visiting the *Celebrate Independence in America's National Parks* website at:

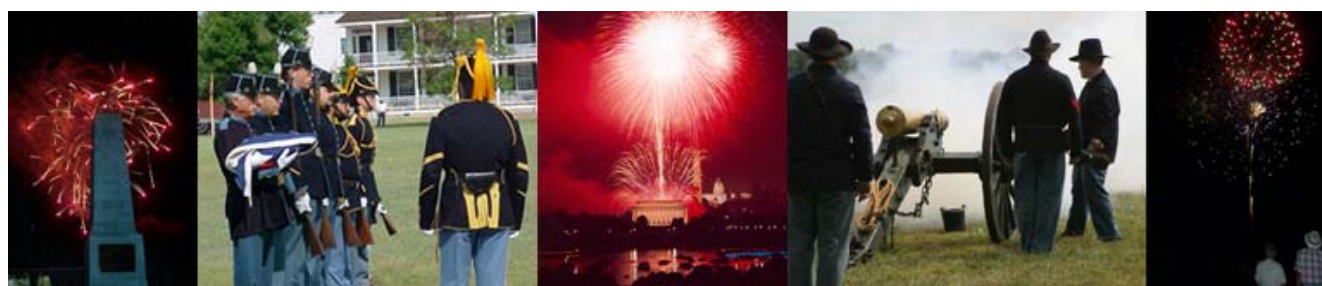
[http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/inde/celebrate.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/inde/celebrate.htm), people can learn of the many special events and programs taking place during the week of and on the Fourth of July at NPS sites throughout the nation. In addition to a list of parks holding special programs, the web site includes information and web links to books and documents related to the theme of Independence, and an overview and list of several national park sites related to Independence.

To learn more about American Independence and the National Park Service and to gain a better understanding of our nation's past, present, and future, visit the *Celebrate Independence in America's National Parks* website, and more importantly visit a National Park this Independence Day.

-NPS-



## Independence Day Celebrations and Programs in the National Park Service - 2007



Many parks celebrate Independence with special events and programming. A list of special events and celebrations follows. We invite everyone to come celebrate Independence with us at a National Park Service site this year.

### Intermountain Region

#### [Bandelier National Monument, NM](#)

**4th of July Weekend: June 30 – July 4, 2007:** Come to the park and enjoy the following programs:

June 30 - July 1 Jemez Pueblo pottery with Dolores Toya

July 1 Leon Roybal Dance group of San Ildefonso Pueblo

July 2 Bread baking with Josephine Toya of Jemez Pueblo

July 4 Cochiti Pueblo drum maker Arnold Herrera

For more information about these special programs, contact the park at (505) 672-3861 ext. 517.

#### [Bryce Canyon National Park, UT](#)

**Fourth of July Celebration:** On **July 4th**, ranger Kevin Poe will be giving a special presentation about the Declaration of Independence. He will recite from memory the entire Declaration and provide interpretation along the way... including how 1776 was a pivotal year for American Indian groups in the desert southwest. The program is a half an hour long and will start at 8:00 p.m. at the Bryce Canyon Lodge. Visitors are invited to attend a fireworks display after the presentation (usually about 9:15pm) put on by Ruby's Inn just outside of the park. Please contact the park at (435) 834-4412 for more information.

#### [Chamizal National Memorial, TX](#)

**4th of July Celebration:** Join the Museum & Cultural Affairs Department of the City of El Paso on July 4, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. when they present the El Paso Symphony Orchestra in an evening of celebratory music and fireworks. For more information about this program, contact the park at (915) 532-7273.

## **Fort Laramie National Historic Site, WY**

**Annual "Old Fashioned Fourth of July" Celebration:** Fort Laramie National Historic Site will celebrate Independence Day, **July 4**, 2007 in genuine frontier style. Games, a Native American warrior program, equestrian drill team, Living History demonstrations and special activities will make Fort Laramie the place to be on Independence Day. The fort invites the public to bring their friends and families and plan to have a fun filled day. Admission to the park on the Fourth of July is free.

For many years, Fort Laramie has been a traditional part of Independence Day activities in southeast Wyoming. As in years past, the day will be packed with events and offer something for everyone. The observance this year begins on July 4th, at 9:30 a.m. with a military flag raising ceremony and cannon firing.

The popular Old time children's games will begin on the parade ground in front of "Old Bedlam" promptly at 10:00 a.m. Sack races, pole climbing, egg tossing, foot races and more will challenge the youngsters of "all ages." All participants will receive a ribbon, and first, second and third place prizes will be awarded for each event and age group.

At noon, a 38 gun salute will be presented at the flag pole. The salute will include the firing of the park's 12-pound Mountain Howitzer.

Michael "Bad Hand" Terry, noted Plains Indian Warrior living Historian, will be present throughout the day and will give a formal program at 12:45 on the culture and warrior traditions of the Northern Plains Tribes. Mr. Terry will also set up his Lakota warrior lodge for visitors to inspect.

Back by popular demand, the Trotters equestrian drill team will perform at 2:00 p.m. Once again the sights and sounds of 19th century cavalry drill will be seen and heard on the historic parade ground.

At 3:30 p.m. park living history interpreters will present a historic weapons demonstration, including small arms and artillery.

Kids ages 7-12 are invited to gather on the parade ground at 4:30 p.m. for "Junior Soldier Drill", where they will be schooled in marching and drill just as the soldiers of Fort Laramie were 125 years ago.

The day will end with a "final bang" as park staff recreates an 1876 period retreat parade and cannon firing for the lowering of our national colors at 5:30 p.m.

Throughout the day, park visitors can visit a variety of living history stations and period craft demonstrations. Free samples of army bread will be given out in the 1876 bakery.

A food concession will be operated by the Goshen County Chamber of Commerce, which will be selling drinks, hamburgers and chips. The 1883 Soldiers bar will also be open selling root beer and sarsaparilla. Come and join us for an old-fashioned, event filled day of family fun and activities! For more information about this event, contact the park at (307) 837-2221.

## **Midwest Region**

### **Fort Scott National Historic Site, KS**

**Fourth of July Celebration:** On **July 4**, the park will offer "Highlights in History" which are Ranger talks emphasizing some of the compelling stories at FOSC.

On the **July 7th**, the theme will be how the military community celebrated one of its few holidays which of



course was the 4th. The schedule of activities will include the following:

Marbles that were excavated from the site will be on display in the museum. Along with the exhibit we are inviting the public to attend a tournament of marbles and to bring their own marbles to play in the competition.

Other appropriate games such as the graces, hoop and stick, three legged race, tug of war will be demonstrated and visitors encouraged to participate. Afterwards watermelon will be served.

Volunteers dressed in living history clothing will be on the grounds picnicking with their families, depicting how the married soldiers spent the holiday. Officers and their families will be playing games or listening to music. Other volunteers will be in period clothing strolling the grounds. Several volunteers will give patriotic speeches and all of the buildings will be decked out in bunting.

There is a special evening program planned that will continue the military holiday celebration. It will begin at 7:30 pm with a cannon firing, color guard and the band playing the Star Spangled Banner. The Blue and Gray Brass Brigade Military band will be here to perform a military concert on the parade ground. The park will be giving out free homemade ice cream to visitors as they relax to enjoy the concert. Half way through the music will be a special presentation and another cannon firing. Music will continue for another 45 minutes, ending with Taps and the Stars and Stripes and one more night firing. For more information, contact the park at (620) 223-0310.

### **Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR**

**Children's Program: 4th of July Celebrations in 19th c. Fort Smith:** In the 19th century, the 4th of July was often celebrated with speeches and patriotic music. The local newspapers wrote about some of these celebrations. In this free workshop children will read selections from speeches, sing some of the songs performed on the 4th of July during the time of Judge Parker, and participate in a parade. This free workshop is open to children ages 5 and up. Reservations are required and may be made by calling the park at (479) 783-3961. The event will be held on **June 30, 2007 and July 4, 2007** at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Meet at the Visitor Center.

### **George Rogers Clark National Historical Park, IN**

**Fourth of July Event:** On **July 4<sup>th</sup>**, George Rogers Clark NHP will be celebrating the historic day with fireworks, and music. Fire works are launched from across the river (not park property). The local university music department will provide patriotic music prior to the fireworks. For more information about this event, contact the park at (812) 882-1776.

### **Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, IA**

**Old Fashioned Independence Day:** Celebrate the 4th the old fashioned way with dramatic presentations and patriotic music. The event will take place on **July 4, 2007** at the Presidential Library and Museum. For more information about this event, contact the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum at (319) 643-5301.

### **Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, MO**

**Annual Fourth of July Celebration:** The park will be presenting the following programs for the public during **the week of July 4:**

*The Historic Old Courthouse* will be open 8am to 5pm.

- **10 & 11 a.m.:** Freedom Tour
- **Noon:** Independent Silver Cornet Band concert

- **1pm:** GumSpring Serenaders concert
- **2pm:** Independent Silver Cornet Band Concert with Historic Speeches
- **3pm:** Blow Family Memories, a program about the original owners of Dred Scott, a family which later gave him his freedom
- **4pm:** Independent Silver Cornet Band Concert

***GumSpring Serenaders*** will be playing on the Old Courthouse front portico during the afternoon. Living History volunteers will present historic vignettes throughout the day throughout the building.

Also: There will be a Naturalization Ceremony at 1 pm on Tuesday, July 3rd, in the Courthouse rotunda. About 75 new citizens will receive their naturalization papers.

Meanwhile, on the grounds of the Gateway Arch, a special program will be held in conjunction with a scaled-down Fair St. Louis. In the program interpretive rangers and park volunteers will staff five separate sites on the grounds which mark historic locations or events.

1. William Clark's Museum and Indian Council Chamber will be commemorated through the interpretation by NPS rangers of a full-size tipi and hands-on objects and toys. The tipi will be set up on the exact site of the original museum building, reinforcing the historic nature of the Arch grounds and the fact that important events and structures once existed there.
2. Elijah Lovejoy's Print Shop site will be similarly commemorated by trail rangers from the Grace Hill Settlement House, who will discuss urban slave escapes along the Underground Railroad with visitors. Lovejoy was an abolitionist newspaper editor who was later martyred because of his beliefs.
3. William Clark's Home site will be commemorated by volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, who will describe how Clark's son's home, like others in St. Louis, employed Mormons as servants, governesses, etc., allowing them to earn enough money to make their way westward on the Mormon Trail to Utah. They have many fascinating personal interest stories to relate, taken from original letters of the era. The display will include a full-size Mormon handcart.
4. The site of the Old Rock House, where wagon tarp covers and tents were made for the overland journey, will be commemorated by a full-size covered wagon and staffed by NPS rangers.
5. The Eads Bridge, which can be seen from an overlook, will be discussed by NPS rangers.

Visitors who visit all five sites and receive stamps on a "passport" will be able to receive a special prize at the NPS information booth. This program will continue throughout July and into August on Friday and Saturday evenings for the concert series "Live on the Levee."

### **Mount Rushmore National Memorial, SD**

**Fourth of July Celebration:** The annual Independence Day Celebration will take place on **July 3 and 4** at Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Entertainment will begin at 1:00 p.m. on July 3 and continue throughout the day culminating with the fireworks display over the memorial at 9:20 p.m. On July 4, entertainment will begin at 4:00 p.m. and end with the evening lighting ceremony at 9:00 p.m. There will be no fireworks on July 4. Entertainment consists of bands, choirs, Lakota singers and dancers, military bands, children's programs and flyovers. For more information about the Fourth of July celebration, contact the park at (605) 574-3115.

### **Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, KS**

**Fourth of July Activities:** The park will be celebrating the 4th of July holiday on **June 30 and July 1st** with wagon rides, historic cooking, and a barn dance on June 30th from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. On Sunday,

July 1st people will be portraying ranch life throughout the day with normal living history activities and ranch chores.

On July 4th, the park will host an afternoon of historic games. The kick off is an old-fashioned pie eating contest where visitors can watch. Visitors are invited to join in the historic games of rope jumping, cattle roping, a lively bucket brigade, and other games. Refreshments will be served and all games begin at 2 p.m. For more information about this event, contact the park at (620) 273-8494.

### **William Howard Taft National Historic Site, OH**

July 4th Concert and Ice Cream Social: The park will host an ice cream social and band concert from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday July 4th. Visitors will enjoy music from Tracy Walker, Ryan Adcock & Jake Speed and the Freddies. They will also be treated to free ice cream as long as supplies last.

Each of the three acts will provide visitors with a variety of music from bluegrass & ragtime to folk rock in the three hour program. All three are fixtures on the local music scene. The programs as well as tours of the historic home are free.

Free parking is available in a small lot in front of the Taft Education Center or a lot on Southern Avenue. Call (513) 684-3262 for accessibility assistance and information. Driving directions and map, as well as other useful information about your visit can be found at [www.nps.gov/wiho](http://www.nps.gov/wiho), or by calling (513) 684-3262.

## **National Capital Region**

### **Antietam National Battlefield, MD**

**Antietam Salute to Independence Celebration:** On July 7, 2007, join the Maryland Symphony Orchestra and Zambelli International Fireworks for a special Independence Day commemoration. The two hour concert begins at 7:30 p.m.; fireworks display immediately following the concert. Note: Due to this special event, the visitor center will be open from 8:30 am until 3:00 p.m. Several of the park roads will not be available to tour after 3:00 p.m. For more information about this program, contact the park at (301) 432-5124.

### **Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, MD**

**U.S. Air Force Performs at Fort McHenry!** Get into the spirit of July 4th early by coming to Fort McHenry on **June 30** at 6:00 p.m. for a special evening tattoo ceremony featuring the United States Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team and Chesapeake Concert Band. Joining them on the field will be the fifes and drums of the Fort McHenry Guard Field Music. For the first time in 20 years the United States Air Force will perform at Fort McHenry!

See The Chesapeake Concert Band make its Fort McHenry debut! Well known in the Baltimore area for their stirring patriotic music, the Chesapeake Concert Band specializes in marches by John Philip Sousa and music from the American Civil War. At the ceremony, they will play “The Fort McHenry March” for the first time at the home of “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

The Fort McHenry Guard offers a unique historical experience at every performance. Dressed in the uniform of the 1814 defenders of Baltimore, the Guard will be doing a cannon drill, musket exercise and a bayonet demonstration. The evening program concludes with the audience folding the large 30 x 42-foot Star-Spangled Banner Flag. The evening ceremony is free, and parking is provided on-site.

For more information about this program, contact the park at (410) 962-4290 Ext. 224.

**"The Glorious Fourth!...an Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Weekend!":** July 4th was the most important

holiday in early America. Many regarded the War of 1812 as America's Second War of Independence. Join the garrison of Fort McHenry and patriotic citizens of Baltimore on **July 4, 2007**, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the following activities: fife and drum music, cannon firing, a musket salute for 18 states, period dancing and games. Highlight of the event will be the public reading of the Declaration of Independence at 3:00 p.m. For more information about this event, contact the park at (410) 962-4290.

### **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, WV**

**America's Picnic: Celebrating The Glorious Fourth** : Americans celebrated the nation's birthday with picnics, band concerts, and patriotic speeches honoring the founding fathers and the glorious republic. On **June 30, 2007**, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., visitors are invited to see special displays of discoveries, inventions, and natural amazements in the "Wonders of the Modern World 1860!" exhibition or join a special guided living history program featuring the town's famous July 4ths during the turbulent years at mid century.

Visitors can compete in the hometown militia games of tug-of-war and fire engine house water bucket brigade. On Saturday, visitors are invited to experience the patriotic passion of a traditional hometown band concert with the Wildcat Regiment Band, the Regimental Band of the 105th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. Location: Lower Town District Visitor Center. **For more information about this event, contact the park (302) 535-6029.** \$6.00 per car or \$4.00 per person on foot, bicycle or motorcycle.

### **National Mall**

**America's 2006 Independence Day Parade** - Constitution Ave. between 7th to 17th Streets, NW. The parade on **July 4** at 11:45 a.m. celebrates the 230th birthday of the United States of America. More than 3000 performers, dancers, cultural organizations, giant balloons, floats, and military personnel from thirteen States will march down Constitution Avenue from 7th to 17th streets. The parade is estimated to last approximately 2 hours. The parade is free and open to the public. Contact: 202-619-7222.

### **Presidents Park (White House), District of Columbia**

**Be a "Signer of the Declaration of Independence"**: If you have the "liberty" to stop at the White House Visitor center on Wednesday, **July 4, 2007**, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., you may experience what it would be like to be a "Signer of the Declaration of Independence" for a day with the help of the National Park Service rangers and volunteers from President's Park. For more information about this event, contact the park at (202) 208-1631.

## **Northeast Region**

### **Adams National Historical Park, MA**

**Jefferson & Adams: A Revolutionary Dialogue**: A moving and powerful dramatization of the remarkable friendship between two presidents of the United States. In a fast-paced series of encounters, we see the turbulent relationship between Thomas Jefferson (Colonial Williamsburg interpreter Bill Barker) and John Adams (veteran actor Sam Goodyear) as their friendship ignites, flourishes, ruptures, and resolves itself. The perceptive Abigail Adams (Colonial Williamsburg interpreter Abigail Schumann) acts as a catalyst and motivator. This event is free and open to the public. It will take place on **July 4, 2007** from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Beale Estate, 181 Adams Street, under a tent. Street parking is available. For more information, contact the park at (617) 770-1175.

**Continental Congress**: Re-enact the passage of the Declaration of Independence at the Second Continental Congress. You will assume the role of a delegate and participate in a debate led by John Adams. This event takes place on **July 4th** at 12 noon and 3:00 p.m. in the Carriage House, located on the grounds of the Old House at 135 Adams Street. Street parking is available. For more information, contact the park at (617) 770-1175.



### **Boston National Historical Park, MA**

**Fourth of July Events and Programs:** The park is hosting several programs at various locations throughout the park. Charlestown District Harborfest Programs 2007: **June 27, 28, 29 2 PM**

***Sail, Iron and Steel: Boston's Shipbuilding and Repair Heritage:*** Meet at Charlestown Navy Yard Visitor Center, (617) 242-5601. Join a National Park Service Ranger for a 45 minute walking tour highlighting Boston's Shipbuilding and Repair Heritage at the historic Charlestown Navy Yard!

**June 28** at 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Charlestown Navy Yard Visitor Center (617) 242-5601.

***Twisted Times: Boston's Rope-making Tradition!*** -Take part in this hands-on activity and learn about the ancient craft of rope-making, once one of Boston and the Nation's major industries. Sponsored By Boston National Historical Park.

July 2nd at 2:00 p.m. at the Bunker Hill Museum (617) 242-5601.

***Patriots of Color at Bunker Hill:*** Find out about the courageous African American and Native American men who fought in this pivotal battle! (20 minutes)

### **June 30 and July 1**

***"Cock...Firelock! Present...Fire!*** Celebrate Harborfest at the Bunker Hill Monument with the crack of musket fire! Learn what it was like to be a soldier at the Battle of Bunker Hill through 18<sup>th</sup> century drill and musket demonstrations. For more information, call (617) 242-5601 for schedule.

**June 29, July 1, and July 4** at 2:00 p.m. at the Charlestown Navy Yard Visitor Center. Call (617) 242-5601.

***Decisive Day: The Battle for Bunker Hill:*** Join a Park Ranger for a walk of the battlefield of the famous Battle of Bunker Hill. Tour concludes at the all new Bunker Hill Museum! (45 minutes)

### **Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, MA**

**Ranger Guided Tour:** On **July 4, 2007**, Join us for a three-hour, ranger-guided tour of Little Brewster Island and Boston Light, the oldest light station in the country. This program includes a narrated harbor tour highlighting the maritime traditions in Boston Harbor and its islands. We will view two other lighthouses during the trip to Little Brewster: Graves Light and Long Island Light. Meet the lighthouse keeper of Boston Light and celebrate the Fourth in Boston Harbor! Cost is \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors and active military, \$17 for youth (3-11), and under three is free. Reservations are recommended: visit the park website at [www.bostonislands.com](http://www.bostonislands.com) and click on Boston Light Online Reservations, or call our ticketing agency, Zerve, at (800) 979-3370. For more information, contact the park at (617) 223-8002.

### **Colonial National Historical Park, VA**

**Independence Day Celebration** (Yorktown Battlefield) - The battlefield where America's independence was won is the scene of Yorktown's family oriented Independence Day celebration. A foot race, parade, arts and crafts, musical entertainment and fireworks are highlights of this patriotic festival, sponsored by the Yorktown Fourth of July Celebration Committee and the National Park Service. **July 4, 2007** from 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. For more information, contact the park at (757) 889-2410 or (757) 898-2414.

### **Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, PA/NJ**

### **Old Fashioned Independence Day Celebration at Millbrook Village NJ: Saturday, June 30, 2007.**

Join park staff for an old-fashioned Independence Day celebration featuring children's activities, a parade through the village by visitors and costumed villagers, and old-fashioned games like a watermelon-eating contest. For more information, contact the park at (570) 426-2452.

### **Fort Stanwix National Monument, NY**

**Independence Day Public Readings:** On **July 4, 2007**, Join the park as we commemorate the July 4, 1777 public reading of the Declaration of Independence to the Continental Army garrisoned at Fort Stanwix. These words provided the American soldiers strength during the British 21-day siege in August 1777. Children and adults are encouraged to join this event by serving as honor guards. Readings take place at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., and are followed by cheers and salutes from the park's reproduction historic weapons. For more information about this event, contact the park at (315) 336-3126.

### **George Washington Birthplace National Monument, VA**

**Independence Day :** On **July 4, 2007**, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Popes Creek Plantation will be filled with 18th century activities such as open hearth cooking, spinning, and blacksmithing. Visitors are invited to join park rangers in celebrating Independence Day at the park. For more information about this special event, contact the park at (804) 224-1732, extension 227.

### **Hampton National Historic Site, MD**

**Fourth of July Parade and orations:** On June 30, 2007 celebrate the birth of the nation in this joint program sponsored by the Hampton Improvement Association, the Fort McHenry Guard, and the National Park Service. For more information about this special event, contact the park at (410) 823-1309.

### **Lowell National Historical Park, MA**

**Independence Day, 2007:** Explore the second American Revolution at Lowell National Historical Park, in Lowell, MA during Independence Day 2007. Celebrate the significance of the American INDUSTRIAL Revolution in the setting of this 19th century textile manufacturing center. Historic downtown Lowell, with preserved canals, mills, and community architecture is the setting for Park tours on Wednesday, **July 4** and all summer including:

**"Views of Lowell"** trolley tour at 10:00 a.m., and the "Pawtucket to the River" tours at 11:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.

**The Boott Cotton Mills Museum** is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. where visitors can hear the roar of looms in an operating weave room and much more. The operating 1890's water turbine is a highlight and provides a unique perspective on waterpower at *"The River Transformed"* exhibit, open 1:00 p.m.– 4:30 p.m. A special feature for the summer of 2007 at the Boott Mills is the exhibit *"On the Road: Jack Kerouac's original Scroll Manuscript and Exhibit"*, open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. Begin your explorations at the Park Visitor Center, 246 Market Street, calling (978) 970-5000, or by visiting the park's website at [www.nps.gov/lowe](http://www.nps.gov/lowe).

### **Morristown National Historical Park, NJ**

**Presentation of DAR Historic Preservation Medal:** Morristown National Historical Park's July 4th activities will feature the presentation of a national Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Historic Preservation Medal to Morristown, New Jersey citizen Marion O. Harris for her long and distinguished dedication to the principles of historic preservation. The medal presentation will be at noon on July 4 at the park's Ford Mansion grounds. For more information about this event, contact the park at (908) 766-8217.

Please note: Due to the major renovation and expansion construction project at the Washington's Headquarters Museum, parking at the Headquarters unit of Morristown NHP is extremely limited. National

Park Service rangers will be on-hand to manage the parking. All visitors to the July 4th activities are encouraged to carpool in as few cars as possible or walk to the event.

The only toilets available are portable toilets located in the parking lot. There is no drinking water available at the Headquarters unit. Please bring your own water and dress appropriately for the weather including wearing a hat and sunscreen. The events will be cancelled if there is inclement weather. There is no rain date.

**Warmup for the Declaration:** Join park staff at the Ford Mansion on July 4, 2007 from noon to 1:00 p.m. for stories, jokes, riddles, and an inspection of the troops are all part of the warm up activities offered prior to our annual reading of the Declaration of Independence. Join us for the fun as a park ranger offers a 'kid level' explanation of the Declaration of Independence. For more information, contact the park at (973) 539-2016.

**Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence:** Celebrate the Fourth of July as our ancestors did; with a public reading of the Declaration of independence. Cheer along with costumed rangers as they denounce tyranny and toast liberty. On **July 4, 2007** from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Ford Mansion. For more information, contact the park at (973) 539-2016

### [Saint Paul's Church National Historic Site, NY](#)

**A traditional July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration:** Special celebration on **July 4** featuring music, speeches, refreshments, reading of the Declaration of Independence, and tolling of the historic St. Paul's church bell - 13 times. For more information about this program, contact the park at (914) 667-4116.

### [Saratoga National Historical Park, NY](#)

#### **Independence Day at Saratoga Battlefield**

**Citizenship Ceremony: 10:00 a.m., Routes 32 and 4, Stillwater** - Independence Day on Wednesday, **July 4** will be celebrated at Saratoga NHP with a Citizenship Ceremony followed by a 1776 town crier heralding news of American Independence.

Join fellow citizens in toasting the 13 "new" states. On the anniversary of our nation and upon grounds where freedom was won, foreigners will gather to become new citizens of America. Fife and drums, color guard, and musket firings frame this special event organized by Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield and Immigration and Naturalization Services.

**Reading of the Declaration of Independence – July 4, 1 & 3:00 PM** - As a messenger from 1776, a park ranger will read the Declaration of Independence with authentic 18th century toasts reflecting the insightful wit of the document signers. Free lemonade for all to share in the toasts, followed by celebratory musket firings. For more information about this or other events, please call the Visitor Center at 518-664-9821 ext. 224 or check our Web site at "www.nps.gov/sara".

## **Pacific West Region**

### [Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, WA/OR](#)

**Fourth of July Celebration:** Come to the park to enjoy Vancouver's famous fireworks display. The Fort will be open on **July 4, 2007** from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. where visitors can enjoy living history events throughout the day. For more information about this event, contact the park at (360) 816-6230.

### [San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, CA](#)

**Fourth of July Waterfront Celebration:** San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park will host portions of the City of San Francisco's Fourth of July Waterfront Celebration. A stage of musical

entertainment at the Aquatic Park Historic District will begin at 2 p.m. on July 4 and will be followed with an 18-minute firework show at 9:30 p.m. Excellent viewing for the fireworks will be available at the Aquatic Park Historic District. For further information, please call the park's Visitor Center at 415-447-5000.

## **Southeast Region**

### **Cowpens National Battlefield, SC**

**Patriotic Program:** Cowpens National Battlefield will celebrate our nation's independence on Saturday, June 30, 2007. This 15th annual free event is a traditional favorite of visitors. The day will begin with guided battlefield walks at 9:00 a.m. and end with fireworks around 9:15 p.m. Chock full in between will be music, musket and rifle firing demonstrations, an 18th century traveling performer, and more. Activities will take place throughout the park: at the visitor center, on the battlefield, and at the circa 1830 Robert Scruggs cabin.

Bring a picnic and enjoy the day with your family and friends. Please note that there will NOT be food/drink vendors in the park. A certified roadside market is located outside the park's main gate. Restaurants and fast food are located in both Chesnee and Gaffney. Safety is our top priority -- park regulations prohibit personal fireworks, chemlights, sparklers, etc. In the event of inclement weather, the fireworks will be rescheduled for Sunday, July 1, 2007. For more information about this event, contact the park at (864) 461-2828.

### **Fort Pulaski National Monument, GA**

**Celebrating America at Fort Pulaski:** On July 7 & 8, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., help celebrate the nation's 231<sup>st</sup> Birthday with a special patriotic living history event at Fort Pulaski. Activities include cannon firings, soldier and music demonstrations, and a recreation of a historic 1862 game of baseball. The cost is \$3.00 per adult. For more information about this event, contact the park at (912) 786-5787.

### **Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, NC**

**Independence Day Celebration:** A Revolutionary War battlefield is a great place to visit if you really want to appreciate what Independence Day is all about. Come and commemorate our nation's independence on **July 4, 2007** from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Revolutionary War battlefield of Guilford Courthouse. Two of North Carolina's signers of the Declaration of Independence are buried in the park.

Beginning at 11:30 the Guilford Courthouse Fife and Drum Corps will perform 18th century martial music at the signers' grave and monument. Immediately following, at noon, there will be a brief commemorative ceremony. An 18th century militia muster will be re-created, and there will be demonstrations of period weapons and equipment at Tour Stop 6. For more information about this event, contact the park at (336) 288-1776.

### **Moore's Creek National Battlefield, NC**

**July 4th Weekend Celebration :** Celebrate American Independence by visiting the park on **June 30 - July 1**. Enjoy demonstrations of toy making, writing with a quill pen, and blacksmithing. On Saturday June 30th at 1 P.M. author and historian John Hairr will speak. Mr. Hairr is the author of Guilford Courthouse and Colonel David Fanning: Adventures of a Carolina Loyalist. After his presentation Mr. Hairr will be available to answer questions and sign books. For more information about this event, contact the park at (910) 283-5591.

### **Vicksburg National Military Park, MS**

**Surrender at Vicksburg – July 4, 1863:** On June 30 and July 1, 2007, Saturday and Sunday, the park will

host an encampment highlighting the 1863 Siege of Vicksburg. Volunteers who recreate Civil War Federal and Confederate units will participate in the special event. Programs will include historic weapons programs (artillery and infantry demonstrations), musical programs, general camp life and ranger presentations both days at Ft. Garrott.

On Wednesday July 4, 2007, programs will be presented at Battery DeGoyler. Union artillery soldiers will demonstrate the firing of a Napoleon Cannon as well as talk about artillery during the 1863 Siege. Special programs about the surrender will also be presented as Vicksburg surrendered on July 4, 1863. For further information contact Rick Martin, at (601)619-2905.

**Last Update: June 18, 2007; 4:03 p.m.**

**National Park Service • Office of Public Affairs**